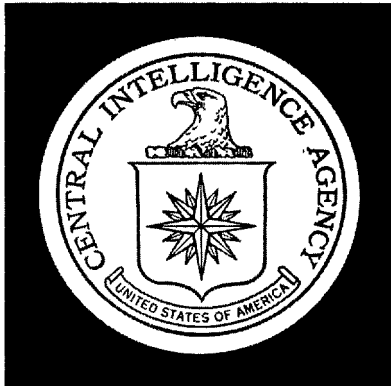


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*Vietnam: (Information as of 4:30 AM EST)

Political Developments in South Vietnam: The Ministry of Defense has reassigned a number of high officers in the armed forces.

The commander of the IV Corps, General Quang, has been recommended to serve in the newly-created ministerial post of planning and development. Quang will be succeeded by the commander of the 23rd Infantry Division, General Manh. Six other minor changes were also announced.

Premier Ky officially announced the rearrangement of his cabinet on 18 November in an effort to end the two-month dispute between southern ministers and northerners in the ruling junta. Deputy Premier Nguyen Luu Vien, one of the more influential southern officials, was named to head a new Ministry of Culture. The important Ministry of Economy was split into a Ministry of Commerce, led by Nguyen Kien Thien An, and a Ministry of Industry, with Ky's financial advisor Truong Thai Ton as acting minister.

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USSR-India: Moscow's disapproval of New Delhi's domestic policies appears to have ruled out a visit by Premier Kosygin before India's February elections.

Kosygin's scheduled visit to India last spring was postponed because of Prime Minister Shastri's death. Since then, Indian officials have been predicting that the Soviet premier would arrive in November and have been looking forward to the boost his visit would give Mrs. Gandhi in the elections.

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The Soviet press and radio have been increasingly critical of India's political and economic policies. They regard Mrs. Gandhi's recent concessions to private enterprise as evidence that the right wing of the Congress party is in control, and charge New Delhi with neglecting the public sector of the economy. Moscow has endorsed a "unity of left forces" for the elections and apparently hopes that the parties of the left and the left wing of the Congress party--the Krishna Menon faction--will make some gains.

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*Ecuador: The government of provisional president Arosemena may fall within the next few days.

Opposition to Arosemena is growing while the coalition that brought him to power three days ago shows signs of disintegrating. Leading the opposition is the Liberal Party whose candidate for provisional president lost to Arosemena by only five votes.

Other left-of-center political groups have joined the Liberals in an effort to stir up street protests. Sporadic, often violent demonstrations have occurred since 16 November, mostly in Guayaquil. According to reports reaching the US Embassy, this same group plans to unseat Arosemena through parliamentary maneuvers in the constituent assembly. Arosemena's margin of victory was so slight that the defection of three or four delegates could cause his downfall.

Compounding the delicate situation is the readiness of the military to dissolve the assembly because of resentment over vitriolic attacks on the armed forces by certain delegates.

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NOTES

USSR- Austria: Visiting President Podgorny has repeated familiar Soviet objections to a formal Austrian affiliation with the EEC. He has suggested that Vienna conclude a simple trade agreement with the EEC. This is the first time that a senior Soviet official has presented such a solution formally, and some Austrian officials are encouraged that this may be a point of departure for future talks with the Soviets on Austria's relationship with the EEC.

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Cuba - North Korea: The Havana-based revolutionary organization spawned by the Tri-Continent Conference held in Cuba in January 1966 has agreed to establish training schools for revolutionary cadres in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. According to Radio Havana, Cuba and North Korea have agreed to the establishment of such schools on their soil. Both countries have long been involved in clandestine cadre training. This open restatement of subversive intent may draw Moscow's displeasure, and could widen the gap between Cuba and Moscow-oriented Communist parties of Latin America. [REDACTED]

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